



Patent
Case No.: 56918US002

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04/29/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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First Named Inventor: BEDINGHAM, WILLIAM
Application No.: 10/034993 Group Art Unit: 1725
Filed: December 28, 2001 Examiner: Unknown
Title: MODULAR SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR USING SAMPLE PROCESSING DEVICES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:	
March 13, 2003	<i>Michelle Murphy</i>
Date	Signed by: Michelle Murphy

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449 citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Under 37 CFR § 1.704(d), I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of the Search Report from a foreign counterpart application is enclosed.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

3/12/2003
Date

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Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (modified)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Page 1 of 1

Application Number

10/034993

Filing Date

December 28, 2001

First Named Inventor

Bedingham, William

Art Unit

1725

Examiner Name

Unknown

Attorney Case Number

56918US002

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)			
	A1	US- 3,912,799	10/14/1975	Chisholm	
	A2	US- 5,336,467	08/09/1994	Heidt et al.	
	A3	US- 6,432,365 B1	08/13/2002	Levin et al.	
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			

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Foreign Patent Documents

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
		Ctry. Code	Number-KindCode (if known)				
	B1	WO	00/05582 A2	02/03/2000			
	B2						
	B3						
	B4						
	B5						
	B6						
	B7						

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
	C1	
	C2	
	C3	

*Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.